

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LOS ANGELES REGION**

**320 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Los Angeles, California 90013  
(213) 576-6600**

**Public Notice No. 22-001  
NPDES No. CA0001309**

**REVISED NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**PROPOSED REISSUANCE OF  
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
(National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit)**

<u>DISCHARGER</u>	<u>DISCHARGE LOCATION</u>	<u>RECEIVING WATER</u>
The Boeing Company Santa Susana Field Laboratory	5800 Woolsey Canyon Road Canoga Park, CA 91304-1148	Bell Creek and Arroyo Simi

The Boeing Company (hereinafter Discharger, or Permittee), is the operator of Santa Susana Field Laboratory (hereinafter SSFL, or Facility), which occupies approximately 2,850 acres and is located at the top of Woolsey Canyon Road in the Simi Hills, Ventura County, California. The Facility is jointly owned by Boeing and the United States of America. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) administers the portion of the property owned by the federal government. The site is divided into four administrative areas (Areas I, II, III, and IV) and undeveloped land areas to both the north and south. The NASA property includes a portion of Area I and all of Area II. The United States Department of Energy (DOE) also owns several buildings that were constructed on land owned by Boeing in the northwest portion in Area IV.

The developed portion of the site comprises approximately 1,500 acres. Boeing and its predecessors' operations at the SSFL since 1950 included research, development, assembly, disassembly, and testing of small-scale nuclear reactors, rocket engines, and chemical lasers. During the 1950s to the mid-1970s, volatile organic compounds were utilized for the cleaning of hardware and rocket engine thrust chambers, and for the cleaning of other equipment. These solvents migrated into the subsurface, contaminating groundwater primarily with trichloroethylene (TCE) and 1,2-dichloroethylene (1,2-DCE).

NASA operations included rocket engine assembly and testing, and propellant and fuel storage and loading. Rocket engine testing began at the SSFL in the 1950s. In late 2006, the rocket engine and component testing operations at the facility were terminated. These tests generated fuel related pollutants and heavy metals. Three of the test stands and the associated spillways remain onsite. Planning has begun with the goal to remove two of the test stands.

DOE's past operations include research and development of energy related programs, and seismic testing experiments. The activities included developing and operating

reactors, and fabricating and disassembling nuclear fuel. The DOE began to phase out the program in the 1960s. The last reactor was shut down in 1980, and nuclear research was terminated in 1989. The research and the associated activities resulted in residual soil and groundwater contamination. A series of demolition projects have commenced towards removing the DOE buildings.

The discharge from the SSFL regulated by the proposed Order is composed **primarily** of stormwater runoff that traverses the site. The stormwater runoff picks up pollutants present on site as a result of past activities. The discharge shall be limited to 187 MGD of stormwater runoff.

Approximately 60% of the discharge exits the property via two southerly discharge points (Outfalls 001 and 002) to Bell Creek, a tributary to the Los Angeles River, a water of the United States, with its confluence located near the intersection of Bassett Street and Owensmouth Avenue in Canoga Park. Upstream outfalls that contribute to the discharge at Outfalls 001 and 002 include Outfalls 011 and 018. Stormwater runoff from Happy Valley (Outfall 008) flows via Dayton Canyon Creek to Chatsworth Creek. Chatsworth Creek flows south to Bell Creek which subsequently flows southeast to the Los Angeles River.

The stormwater from the northern boundary of the site is discharged via Outfalls 003 through 007 and 010 or it is transferred to Silvernale Pond for treatment prior to discharge at Outfall 018. Stormwater from Outfalls 003 through 007 and 010 that is not pumped to Silvernale Pond is discharged to the Arroyo Simi. Outfall 009 always discharges to Arroyo Simi.

#### HEARING DATE AND LOCATION

**Date: February 10, 2022**

**Time: 9:00 a.m.**

**Place: ~~Remote meeting, no physical location~~ **TBD****

~~Additional information about the location of the hearing and options for participating will be available 10 days before the hearing. Any person desiring to receive future notices about any proposed Board action regarding this Discharger, please contact Duong Trinh at [duong.trinh@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:duong.trinh@waterboards.ca.gov), to be included on the e-mail list. Please check the Board's website (<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/>) for the most up-to-date public hearing location as it is subject to change.~~

#### AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The Report of Waste Discharge, related documents, tentative requirements, comments submitted, and other information received regarding the discharge are available for inspection and copying between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the following address:

Public Notice No. 22-001  
The Boeing Company

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Los Angeles Region  
320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Arrangements for file review and/or obtaining copies of the documents may be made by calling the Los Angeles Water Board at (213) 576-6600. The entire file will become a part of the administrative record of this proceeding, irrespective of whether individual documents are specifically referenced during the hearing. The entire file will not be present in the hearing room. Should any interested persons desire staff to bring to the hearing any particular documents that are not included in the agenda packet, they must submit a written or electronic request to staff during business hours, not later than 5 business days before the hearing. The request must identify the documents with enough specificity for staff to locate them.

The tentative [waste discharge requirement \(WDRs\)/NPDES permit, a summary of major changes in the tentative WDRs/NPDES permit, a table comparing the current permit limits with those that are proposed](#), comments received, and the response to comments when prepared will also be available on the Regional Water Board's website under "Board Decisions" in the main menu at:  
[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/board\\_decisions/tentative\\_orders/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.shtml)

#### NATURE OF HEARING

This will be a formal quasi-adjudicative proceeding pursuant to section 648 et seq. of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. Chapter 5 of the California Administrative Procedure Act (commencing with section 11500 of the Government Code) does not apply to this proceeding.

*Ex Parte Communications Prohibited:* As a quasi-adjudicative proceeding, no board member may discuss the subject of this hearing with any person, except during the public hearing itself. Any communications to the Los Angeles Water Board must be directed to staff.

#### COMMUNICATIONS WITH STAFF BEFORE THE HEARING

The lead staff member responsible for this item is:

Duong Trinh  
320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Los Angeles, CA 90013  
(213) 576-6665  
[duong.trinh@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:duong.trinh@waterboards.ca.gov)

## PARTIES TO THE HEARING

The following are the parties to this proceeding:

1. The applicant/permittee

Any other persons requesting party status must submit a written or electronic request to staff not later than 20 business days before the hearing. All parties will be notified if other persons are so designated.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUBMITTAL OF EVIDENCE

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the tentative waste discharge requirements/NPDES permit, or submit evidence for the Board to consider, are invited to submit them in writing. To be evaluated and responded to by staff, included in the Board's agenda folder, and fully considered by the Board, written comments and evidence must be submitted to the Board by mail to the address above or by email to [losangeles@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:losangeles@waterboards.ca.gov) with a copy to [duong.trinh@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:duong.trinh@waterboards.ca.gov), and received at the Board's office by 5:00 p.m. on **January 11 18, 2022**. Please reference the comments as "Comments on tentative NPDES Permit, The Boeing Company, Santa Susana Field Laboratory, NPDES No. CA0001309".

Pursuant to section 648.4, title 23 of the California Code of Regulations, written comments or evidence submitted after the comment deadline will not be allowed or accepted into the Administrative Record without a showing of good cause for the delay, and in no event if any party or the Board would be unduly prejudiced by the late submittal including if staff or the Board would not have an adequate opportunity to review, consider, and respond to the comments or evidence.

Additionally, if the Board receives only supportive comments, the permit may be placed on the Board's consent calendar and approved without oral testimony.

## HEARING PROCEDURE

The meeting, in which the hearing will occur, will start at 9:00 a.m. Interested persons are invited to attend. Staff will present the matter under consideration, after which oral statements from parties or interested persons will be heard. For accuracy of the record, all important testimony should be in writing. The Board will include in the administrative record written transcriptions of oral testimony that is actually presented at the hearing. Oral testimony may be limited to 3 minutes maximum or less for each speaker, depending on the number of persons wishing to be heard. Parties or persons with similar concerns or opinions are encouraged to choose one representative to speak. At the conclusion of testimony, the Board will render a decision.

Parties or persons with special procedural requests should contact staff. Any procedure not specified in this hearing notice will be waived pursuant to section 648(d) of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. Objections to any procedure to be used during this hearing must be submitted in writing not later than close of business 15 business days

Public Notice No. 22-001  
The Boeing Company

prior to the date of the hearing. Procedural objections will not be entertained at the hearing.

If there should not be a quorum on the scheduled date of this meeting, this matter will be automatically continued to the next scheduled meeting on March 10, 2022. A continuance will not extend any deadline set forth herein.

Date of Revised Notice: January 5, 2022